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Kentuckians celebrate Earth Day



"The care of the Earth is our most ancient and most worthy, and after all, our most pleasing responsibility. To cherish what remains of it, and to foster its renewal, is our only hope."
Wendell Berry

The Kentucky Environmental Quality Commission honored 16 Kentuckians at the Governor's Mansion in Frankfort in recognition of the 35th anniversary of Earth Day. EQC Commissioner Aloma Dew presented noted author, poet and farmer Wendell Berry the commission's Life of Service Award during the April 22, 2004 ceremony. During the presentation of the award Dew said, "No one personifies Kentucky and our moral struggle to protect the land more than Wendell Berry. His appreciation and love for the land is expressed in his life and his words." Wendell Berry has published 40 books of essays, poetry and novels. He writes what he believes, challenging us to be better people and better stewards of the earth. "Wendell Berry is not only a great writer and poet, he is the conscience of Kentucky," commented Dew.

[Continued page 8 see EQC Honors 16 Kentuckians on Earth Day](#)



State regulators propose to use volunteer monitoring data for stream determinations

A draft guidance document for use of volunteer monitoring data in Division of Water programs is available for public comment until May 31, 2004.

The Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet, Division of Water, along with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Water, encourages all citizens to learn about water resources. Both agencies also encourage volunteer monitoring to help build public awareness of pollution problems and to help identify and resolve pollution issues. The Division of Water has supported volunteer monitoring in Kentucky since 1985 through the Water Watch and the Watershed Watch programs.

Voluntary monitoring data have historically been used as supplemental or supporting data for water quality determinations and decisions, but volunteer groups have wanted to participate more fully in state water quality activities. The draft guidance document is meant to allow volunteer data to be used more extensively, and, in some instances, as a sole source for certain determinations.

Training and specifications for collecting, verifying and submitting data are spelled out in protocols in the draft document. It can be viewed on the Division of Water's Web page, <http://www.water.ky.gov>. Contact: Margaret Shanks Manager, Watershed Management Branch, Kentucky Division of Water, (502) 564-3410 or e-mail to Margaret.Shanks@ky.gov

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EQC Commissioners:

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Lexington
Betsy Bennett, *Vice-Chair*
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STATE NEWS



Federal EPA lists eight Kentucky counties as nonattainment for new ozone standard

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) today announced that eight Kentucky counties do not meet the new, more protective, health-based, eight-hour ozone standard. Kentucky counties designated as not meeting that standard are: **Boone, Campbell and Kenton Counties in Northern Kentucky; Bullitt, Jefferson and Oldham counties in the Louisville area; and Boyd and Christian counties.**

These designations will become effective on June 1, 2004. The state will have three years to develop an implementation plan and counties not meeting the eight-hour standard have until June 2009 to reach attainment status. The remainder of the state is listed as attainment, or meeting, the eight-hour standard. EPA also released implementation guidance that appears to render vehicle emissions testing (VET) programs in Jefferson, Boone, Kenton and Campbell counties optional, rather than mandatory, elements of an air quality plan. VET programs have been used in those counties under the current one-hour ozone standard.

The state will continue to compile and review monitoring data from the listed counties over the course of the implementation period. The standard, originally adopted in November 1997, underwent several legal challenges, as did the original draft implementation guidance proposed by U.S. EPA. Until EPA finalizes the second phase of the implementation guidance later this summer, it is unclear what types of emission reduction requirements will be required in these areas.

Two Kentucky counties exceed new federal particulate standard

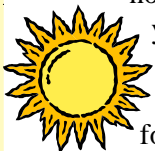
Air quality monitors in **Jefferson** and **Fayette** counties have demonstrated that the two counties exceed a new federal air quality standard for fine particulate matter known as PM 2.5. As a result, the Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet (EPPC) has designated these two counties to be in nonattainment of the PM 2.5 standard.

Particulate matter consists of particles of dust, soot, smoke and liquid droplets. A variety of sources, such as cars, trucks, buses, wood burning, power plants and other industrial processes, generate particulate matter and other air pollutants that contribute to PM 2.5 concentrations. Particulate matter is believed to aggravate respiratory illnesses such as asthma and bronchitis.

The federal agency is expected to inform states about how the new standard should be implemented later this year. Kentucky will then be required to update its State Implementation Plan (SIP) outlining how the two areas will come into compliance with the new standard by 2007.

2004 Session ends with no budget, net metering bill wins approval

The 2004 session of the Kentucky General Assembly ended with no agreement on a state budget. If a budget is not passed by July 1, Gov. Fletcher has indicated he plans to run the state under his own \$15 billion, two-year budget spending plan.



Among the measures approved by the General Assembly was a Net Metering Bill. Kentucky is one of only 15 states that does not have net metering. Net metering allows homeowners to receive full value for their solar generated electricity in a utility grid connected system. With net metering any excess electricity generated from the solar system is used to offset the homeowners electric bill at the same rate that the homeowner is charged for electricity by the utility company. With the passage of Senate Bill 247 in the final hours of the session, net metering will be available to the owners of small solar energy systems in Kentucky.

Other measures passed during the session include Development and Regulation of Coalbed Methane (HB 577), Extension of the Hazardous Waste Management Fund and the Petroleum Storage Tank Fund (Senate Bills 222 and 224), a joint resolution to take steps to eliminate the Northern Kentucky Vehicle Emission Testing Program (SJR 3).

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CONFERENCE CALENDAR

May 11-13 Response to Terrorism - American Community Preparedness Conference and Expo. Kentucky Fair and Expo Center, Louisville. See www.americaprepares.com

May 12 - Pediatric Environmental Health Live Educational Teleconference. Free teleconference with one of the nation's leading pediatric environmental health experts. There will be a real-time question and answer period and physicians will be able to obtain continuing medical education credit. Visit www.acpm.org/peh.htm

May 13 - Emerging Trends in Building Envelope Design. Radisson Plaza Hotel, Lexington. Contact: Greg Guess, E-mail: Gregory.Guess@ky.gov, phone (502) 564-7192 or in KY (800) 282-0868.

May 18 - Energy Management Workshop for Communities. Capital Plaza Tower Auditorium, Frankfort. Contact: Eddie Riddle Eddie.Riddle@ky.gov or call (502) 564-7192 or in KY (800) 282-0868

May 20 - Biodiesel Workshop. Kentucky Derby Museum, Louisville. Contact: Geoff Young Geoffrey.M.Young@ky.gov or call (502) 564-7192 or in KY (800) 282-0868.

May 26-27 - Kentucky Rural Water Association Annual Operator Expo. Nelson Co. Fairground, Bardstown. See www.krwa.org or call (270) 843-2291.

June 4-6 - Kentucky Waterways Alliance Annual Meeting. Prestonsburg. See www.kywalliance.org.

June 8-9 - Kentucky Rural Water Association Water and Wastewater Training Session-Math and Regulations Review. Lake Barkley State Resort Park, Cadiz. See www.krwa.org or call (270) 843-2291.

Educator Workshops

June 14-16 Bluegrass Ecosystems Workshop. Designed for upper elementary and middle school educators. The workshop will be held at Floracliff in Lexington. For information and to register contact Floracliff@aol.com

July 7-9 Energy Workshop. Hands-on energy workshop for educators. Contact Stephanie Jenkins, University of Kentucky Tracy Farmer Center for the Environment at sejenk2@uky.edu or (859) 257-4974.

July 19-23 - Watershed Workshop. For educators sponsored by Univ. of Kentucky Water Resources Research Institute, Cooperative Extension Service, Tracy Farmer Center for the Environment and Univ. of Louisville. A \$700 stipend will be provided. Contact Stephanie Jenkins, swjenk2@uky.edu or (859) 257-4974.

PUBLIC NOTICES/HEARINGS - PERMITS

This listing is not official. Contact the various divisions listed for more information about these and other permits.

Ky. Division of Water - KPDES Water Discharge Notices/Hearings

Contact Ann Workman, (502) 564-3410. See <http://www.water.ky.gov/publicassistance/notices>

•**Notice of Proposed General Permit for Wastewater Discharges Associated with Drinking Water Plant Activities.** These discharges include new and existing filter backwash water discharge and all other discharges associated with finished waters production. The draft general permit contains water quality based and technology based effluent limitations and conditions. Contact: Ronnie Thompson or Courtney Seitz at (502) 564-3410.

•**City of Richmond Pretreatment Program Modification** (Madison Co.). The modification will result in the revision of local discharge limitations for the Tates Creek and Dreaming Creek Wastewater Treatment plants.

Underground Storage Tank Notices/Hearings

Contact: Vicki Mitchell, (502) 564-6716 or see <http://www.waste.ky.gov/news>

•**St. Andrews Sunoco**, Louisville (Jefferson Co.) - Proposal to approve Corrective Action Plan which include dual-phase extraction to cleanup petroleum contamination from the soil and groundwater.

•**Falls City Business Center, LLC**, Louisville (Jefferson Co.) - Proposals to approve Corrective Action Plan to clean up hydrocarbon contamination of the soil using soil vapor extraction and bioventing.

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Ky. Division of Waste Management - Solid Waste Notices/Hearings

Contact Ron Gruzsky at (502) 564-6716 or see <http://www.waste.ky.gov/news>

Glasgow Regional Landfill, (Barren Co.) - Request to extend expiration of their solid waste permit to May 2008.

Outer Loop Recycling and Disposal Facility, Louisville (Jefferson Co.)- The findings of the Groundwater Assessment Report indicate that the chemicals arsenic, barium, lead, selenium benzene and vinyl chloride have exceeded the groundwater maximum contaminant levels. Some groundwater sampling results indicate increased concentrations over background levels for the following chemical parameters: iron, sodium, chloride, total dissolved solids, specific conductance, total organic carbon and total organic halides. Following approval of the report Outer Loop will be required to submit a Corrective Action Plan. Remedial measures have already been implemented and include controlling groundwater flow by pumping to maintain an inward flow gradient at the facility, thereby eliminating the possible offsite migration of degraded groundwater.

Outer Loop Recycling and Disposal Facility, Louisville (Jefferson Co.) - Draft Construction/Operation permit to expand facility 496.6 acres.

Ohio County Balefill, Inc., Hartford (Ohio Co.) - Proposed approval of a Groundwater Assessment Report to address benzene concentrations above the maximum contaminant level detected in the groundwater monitoring system. The findings indicate that benzene detected in monitoring wells occurs naturally in the stratigraphic unit being monitored. As the detection of benzene in the groundwater monitoring wells is not related to landfill operations, the permittee will not be required to submit a Corrective Action Plan; however, the permittee will be required to modify and upgrade its groundwater monitoring system.

Ohio County Balefill Inc., Hartford (Ohio Co.) - Proposal to expand landfill by 28.21 acres from 175.88 acres to 204.09 acres.

West Kentucky Landfill, Mayfield (Graves Co.)- Receipt of application from Jones Sanitation to expand the current waste disposal area by 60 acres increasing the disposal volume of the facility by 7.5 million cubic yards.

Domermuth Environmental Services, Sterns (McCreary Co.) - The Division of Waste Management has withdrawn the Notice of Intent to Revoke the Registered Permit-by-Rule for a Solid Waste Transfer Station and Solid Waste Composting Facility. The Division of Waste Management contended that Domermuth Environmental Services misrepresented required information in their application of 11-20-2000 and was therefore subject to revocation. Withdrawal of the Notice of Intent to Revoke is based on additional information received by the cabinet.

Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, Paducah (McCracken Co.) - Draft modification to construction/operation permit to accept disposal of all nonhazardous solid waste generated by or on behalf of USDOE at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant. **A Public Hearing will be held on May 11** at the Heath High School gymnasium, 4330 Metropolis Lake Rd., West Paducah at 7 p.m.

Ky. Transportation Cabinet Public Notices/Hearings

To view this and other announcements visit <http://roadprojects.ky.gov/>

•**Alternatives Study for the New Heartland Parkway** - New route between the Cumberland and the Bluegrass parkways.

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Ky. Division of Waste Management - Hazardous Waste Notices/Hearings

Contact: Mary Ann Goins (502) 564-6716 or see <http://www.waste.ky.gov/news>



•**Former Naval Ordinance Station**, Louisville (Jefferson Co.) - Draft Hazardous Waste permit modification for environmental cleanup work that has been completed and proposes future cleanup remedies at the 143 acre site located a 1/2 mile west of Louisville International Airport. The permit modification allows Kentucky to enforce these cleanup remedies. **A Public Meeting will be held on May 25 at 5:30 p.m. and will be followed by a public hearing at 7:30 p.m.** at the Naval Ordinance Conference Ctr., 122 Rochester Dr., Bldg. 91, Louisville.

•**Bluegrass Army Depot**, Richmond (Madison Co.) - Application for a Research, Development and Demonstration (RD&D) Permit to construct and test a chemical weapon demilitarization facility. The permit application is for the construction and testing of a full-scale chemical weapons destruction facility. Research will be conducted using chemical neutralization and water-based oxidative processes to destroy a portion of the stockpile. Using the results from this research, Blue Grass Army Depot will apply for a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Hazardous Waste Treatment Permit to destroy all chemical weapons stockpiled there.

•**LWD**, Calvert City (Marshall Co.) - Final determination to revoke the permit issued to LWD Sanitary Landfill, Inc. for the contained landfills (under both 1988 and 1990 regulations), the construction/demolition debris landfill, the residual landfill and the tire accumulator, tire transporter and tire processor registrations. The permit will be revoked effective June 4, 2004 unless the cabinet withdraws this revocation prior to that date. This action does not prohibit future application for a permit or registration by LWD Sanitary Landfill, Inc.

•**Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant**, Paducah (McCracken Co.) - Tentative decision to reissue the hazardous waste storage and treatment permit. The draft permit for reissuance updates the compliance schedules in the permit to be consistent with the latest cleanup schedules agreed to by the parties of the Federal Facility Agreement (the DOE Paducah Office, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 4 and the Commonwealth of Kentucky). Other changes in the draft permit include adding 340 areas waste management areas of possible contamination; allow additional treatment in permitted areas of the facility; allow treatment by absorption and decanting in additional areas of the facility; include DOE Material Storage Areas where hazardous waste was found to be stored without a permit and other updates. *Comments may be e-mailed to Lauren.McDonald@ky.gov or mailed to Michael Welch, Division of Waste Management, 14 Reilly Road, Frankfort, KY 40601.*

Ky. Division for Air Quality Permit Notices

Contact: George Day, (502) 573-3382.

•**Ambrake Corporation**, Elizabethtown (Hardin Co.) - Title V Operating Permit.

•**Fontaine Trailer Co.**, Princeton, Caldwell Co. - Conditional Major Source Construction/Operating Permit (Title V does not apply).

•**Trim Masters Inc.**, Harrodsburg (Mercer Co.) - Conditional Major Source Construction/Operating Permit (Title V does not apply).

•**Webasco Roof Systems, Inc.**, Lexington (Fayette Co.) - Conditional Major Source Construction/Operating Permit (Title V does not apply).

•**Weyerhaeuser Co.**, Bowling Green (Warren Co.) - Conditional Major Source Construction/Operating Permit (Title V does not apply) and Synthetic Minor Construction/Operation Permit at a non-Title V source which restricts operation so that PSD regulations do not apply.

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STATE REGULATIONS

Air Quality

401 KAR 51:001. Definitions for 401 KAR Chapter 51.

401 KAR 51:017. Prevention of significant deterioration of air quality.

401 KAR 51:052. Review of new sources in or impacting upon nonattainment areas.

Proposed regulations which incorporate updated federal rules for the prevention of significant deterioration of ambient air quality (PSD) and nonattainment new source review (NSR). The amendments apply to major stationary sources and major modifications constructing in areas that are designated as nonattainment or unclassified for the specified pollutants. They include changes in applicability requirements for modifications to allow sources more flexibility to respond to rapidly changing markets and to plan for future investments in pollution control and prevention technologies. These revisions address baseline actual emissions, actual-to-projected actual applicability test, clean unit test, plant wide applicability limitations (PALs) and pollution control projects (PCP). See <http://www.air.ky.gov/news>

Waste Management

401 KAR 49:080. Solid waste grant funds and solid waste collector and recycler registration

401 KAR 49:011. General provisions relating to area solid waste management plans.

The regulations will establish administrative procedures concerning solid waste area annual reports and the Kentucky Pride Fund. Waste collectors and recyclers will be required to register and report with each county in which they provide service, by February 1 of each year. 401 KAR 49:080 will establish litter abatement activities for counties and cities, along with the activities that are approved for funding and will specify which cost shall be reimbursed, and the cabinet's eligibility requirements for the grants. This regulations also includes requirements for submittal, processing and amending area solid waste management plans, including the annual reports and 5-year updates. Contact Nini Hughes at (502) 564-6716 or Nini.Hughes@ky.gov.

Noncoal Mineral Operations

405 KAR 5:002. Definitions

405 KAR 5:032. Permit Requirements

405 KAR 5:036. Signs and Markers

405 KAR 5:042. Blasting

405 KAR 5:048. Protection of Environmental Resources

405 KAR 5:062. Handling of Materials

405 KAR 5:078. Contemporaneous reclamation

405 KAR 5:082. Reclamation Bond

On March 15, 2004 House Bill 295 rendered null, void and unenforceable, the nine regulations for noncoal mineral operations that were adopted on Sept. 12, 2003. 2004 House Joint Resolution 98 requires the cabinet to file emergency and ordinary regulations identical to the original Feb. 22, 1995 versions of 405 KAR 5:001, 5:030, 5:035, 5:038, 5:045, 5:060, 5:075 and 5:080. **A Public Hearing is scheduled on May 27**, at the Department for Natural Resources in Room D-16 of 2 Hudson Hollow, Frankfort. Contact Jim Villines at (502) 564-5698 or Jim.Villines@ky.gov.



Kentucky Brownfield regulation training workshops

The Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection is offering training sessions on Kentucky's cleanup statutes and the new brownfield regulation (401 KAR 100:030) that became effective on March 18, 2004. Each session will begin promptly at 9 a.m., local time, and conclude at approximately 3:30 p.m.

May 19, Covington- Covington City Hall, Corner of 7th and Madison (parking available in City Hall garage).

May 24, Lexington - Kentucky League of Cities, 101 E. Vine Street (parking in the Transit Center garage).

May 28, Louisville- Greater Louisville Inc., 6th Floor, 614 W. Main Street.

June 2, Bowling Green - WKU-South Campus, Carroll Knicely Conference Center, 2355 Nashville Road.

June 3, Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park - Village Green Meeting Room. Take Exit 27 off of I-24.

Contact Kim Mink to register at 502-564-6716 ext. 236 or Kimberly.Mink@ky.gov

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FEDERAL NOTICES

Public input sought for managing fields in the Big South Fork - The National Park Service has released a public scoping document for managing fields in the Big South National River and Recreation Areas (NRRA). The document outlines nine proposed field uses and conditions that are intended to restore natural communities, preserve cultural resources and enrich recreational opportunities. See <http://parkplanning.nps.gov> and select Big Fork NRRA from the drop down menu or contact Christopher Stubbs (423) 569-2404 ext. 231.

USDA Daniel Boone National Forest "Limits of Acceptable Change" for the Red River Gorge - The Forest Service will be hosting four meetings to discuss a collaborative process to focus on human-induced impacts and how to address these impacts in the Gorge. The process will assist the Forest Service determine how much human-induced change is acceptable in the Red River Gorge and to address impacts of public use and preserve the environmental setting and resources for future recreational uses.

* **May 13** - Boone County Extension Office, 6 to 8 p.m. * **May 20** - Lexington Downtown Library, 2 to 4 p.m.

* **May 18** - Natural Bridge State Park, 6 to 8 p.m. * **May 20** - Lexington Downtown Library, 6 to 8 p.m.

For more information contact (859) 745-3158 or see <http://www.southernregion.fs.fed.us/boone/lac/>

USDA Proposal to Remove Eggert's Sunflower from Endangered Species List - The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed to remove Eggert's Sunflower from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants because recovery actions have secured a number of populations and identified additional populations not previously known. At the time of listing there were 34 known sites in the U.S. Presently, there are now 279 sites. In Kentucky the sunflower has been documented in nine counties. Contact Timothy Merritt at (913) 528-6481, ext. 211.

PUBLICATIONS

Daniel Boone National Forest Plan Released - The U.S. Forest Service has released its Revised Forest Plan for the Daniel Boone National Forest. Over 1,100 citizens, agencies and organizations provided input on the revised plan of the 702,000 acre forest.

The forest service considered six management alternatives ranging from a hands-off policy to a policy that would have greatly increased logging and mineral exploration on forest lands. The selected alternative focuses on ecology and recreation, but logging still will be allowed and controlled burns will increase. The plan calls for up to 15,000 acres of prescribed burning during its first year, which increases to 50,000 by year 10. The plan also will make available 17,400 acres of federally owned minerals for oil and gas leasing and identifies 347,800 acres as suitable for timber production. The maximum allowable timber to be harvested from the DBNF is 21.9 million cubic feet for the first 10 years. Off-highway vehicle use will continue in the forest under the revised plan and be designated to 173 miles of the forest. A copy of the revised planning documents are available by visiting the Daniel Boone National Forest Web site at <http://www.southern-region.fs.fed.us/boone/>.

The Environmental Quality Commission is a seven-member citizen board that advises officials on environmental matters, provides a public forum for the discussion of issues and monitors environmental conditions. The Environmental Quality Commission welcomes your input.

Telephone (502)564-2150 ext. 160

E-mail EQC@ky.gov

Web site www.eqc.ky.gov

Address - Environmental Quality Commission

14 Reilly Road., Frankfort, KY 40601

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EQC ACTIVITIES



EQC Honors 16 Kentuckians on Earth Day

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The other 2004 EQC Earth Day award winners were:

- EQC Public Servant Award - Don Girton, Alexandria
- Pine Mountain Trail Conference
- Central Baptist Church Child Care Center - Nita Tanner's Pre-K Class, Lexington
- Williams Riverside Farm, Greg Williams, Taylor County
- Citigroup Environmental Habitat Partnership, Florence -- Citigroup, Conner and Boone County High School, Redwood Rehabilitation Center, Children's Home of Northern Kentucky
- Grant County Solid Waste Management District
- Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest, Bullitt County
- Carol Hanley, University of Kentucky
- Caldwell County Elementary School and the Kentucky Environmental Education Project Inc. Osprey Project
- Target Corporation
- Blackacre Nature Preserve Partnership -- Jefferson County Blackacre Foundation, Kentucky Nature Preserves, Jefferson County Public Schools
- Hugh Archer, Franklin County
- Sister Michelle Morek, Owensboro
- Toyota North America and Toyota Motor Manufacturing Kentucky, Inc.
- Kentucky Watershed Watch



Earth Day Flag Raised

LaJuana S. Wilcher, Secretary of the Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet is joined by Lloyd Cress, Commissioner of the Department for Environmental Protection, in raising an Earth Day Flag to kickoff Earth Week in Kentucky.

State of Kentucky 2004 Earth Day Proclamation

"The environmental and economic health of Kentucky is intrinsically linked."

Governor Ernie Fletcher



WHEREAS, April 22, 2004 will be the 35th annual celebration of Earth Day; and

WHEREAS, Earth Day has been a catalyst for ecological awareness and environmental responsibility across the United States and the Commonwealth; and
WHEREAS, Kentucky's rich natural resources, from the old growth forests of eastern Kentucky, to the falls of the Ohio, to the bald cypress swamps of western Kentucky, provide us with valuable opportunities to renew our minds, bodies and souls; and

WHEREAS, Tourism at our seventeen state resort parks and throughout the Commonwealth, fishing, hunting, hiking, boating, bird and wildlife watching contribute millions of dollars and thousands of jobs to Kentucky's economy; and

WHEREAS, The environmental and economic health of Kentucky are intrinsically linked; and

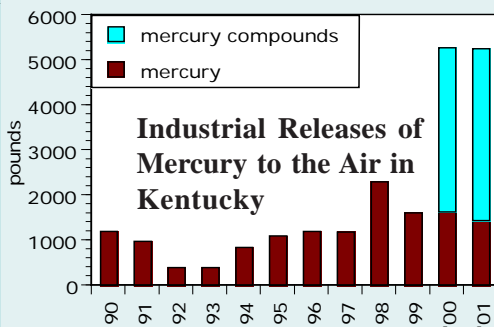
WHEREAS, Commonwealth cabinets and agencies have joined with local communities, businesses, organizations and families to celebrate the beauty of our Commonwealth to do our part to be good stewards of the earth;

NOW THEREFORE, I Ernie Fletcher, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby proclaim April 22, 2004, as EARTH DAY in Kentucky, and encourage all citizens to celebrate and protect Kentucky's environment on this Earth Day and throughout this week, and every week, by enjoying our wonderful resources and serving as stewards of our fragile earth, and all that share it.

To view Earth Day activities in Kentucky visit
<http://www.environment.ky.gov/earthday>

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Environmental Quality Commission Public Meeting



Mercury in Kentucky

A public dialogue of issues and needs

May 17, 2004

Room 131, Capitol Annex, Frankfort

Mercury is a naturally occurring substance that can cause serious health and ecological problems when released to the environment through human activities. Organic forms of this heavy metal, such as methyl mercury, are particularly toxic and of special concern because they can "bioaccumulate" or build up in concentration over

time in living organisms, such as fish. Pregnant women who eat contaminated fish can pass mercury to their unborn children, who are very sensitive to its toxic effects. 40 states including Kentucky now warn residents to restrict their consumption of certain fish due to mercury contamination. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, about 7 million women and children are exposed to mercury-contaminated fish at or above the level it considers safe. EQC has invited state officials to provide an overview of the mercury issue in Kentucky and discuss policy needs and actions to better address mercury concerns in Kentucky.

1 p.m. Open Meeting

1:05 p.m. Mercury in Kentucky

- * Mercury emissions in Kentucky - Division for Air Quality
- * Mercury contamination issues - Division of Water
- * Mercury health issues - Department for Public Health

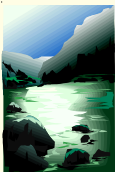
3 p.m. Regulatory Review

- * Division for Air Quality
- * Division of Surface Mining
- * Division of Waste

3:30 p.m. Adjourn

All EQC meetings are free and open to the public. The public is encouraged to attend EQC meetings and offer comments. Visit the EQC Web site at www.eqc.ky.gov for agenda updates. Meeting facilities are accessible to people with disabilities. Auxiliary aids, interpreters and other services will be provided upon request by contacting EQC.

Cumberland Falls cleanup: volunteers needed



Cumberland Falls State Resort near Corbin preserves one of the most distinctive and awe-inspiring natural features in the state. Unfortunately, trash accumulates along the banks of the river, especially during the spring rains.

Here's a chance to take direct action to restore the falls to its pristine condition. The park will sponsor a cleanup day on Saturday, May 22, from 9 a.m. to noon. Volunteers will be provided with garbage bags and work gloves to pick up trash. At the conclusion, participants will be given free t-shirts and treated to a free cookout. Volunteers should gather at the visitor center adjacent to the falls. *For more information, contact Bret Smitley at Cumberland Falls at 1-606-528-4121.*